



## Adult Education MAINE

# MAINE ADULT EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT

**111 programs**  
**120,958 enrollments**

**July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007**

### Executive Summary

Maine Adult Education consists of 111 publicly funded adult education programs with 120,958 enrollments by adult learners throughout our state. Local communities have strongly supported the Adult Education System for many reasons including:

- **Educational Attainment**
- **Economic Development**
- **Community Development**
- **Human Development**

For more than forty years, the partnership between local taxpayers and state and federal governments has provided a strong, accessible, and efficient system that offers a continuum of educational services responsive to local conditions.

**3,196 high school credentials were awarded**  
**13,099 enrollments in Literacy classes**  
**2,520 enrollments in College Transitions courses**

### Educational Attainment

In the 2006-2007 school year, there were more than 15,194 enrollments by Maine adults in high school completion courses offered through Maine Adult Education programs. Many of these individuals left traditional high school programs for family or economic reasons.

### Drop-Out Recovery & Prevention

Between January and June, 2007, Maine Adult Education programs served 2,129 young people between 16 and 20 who were not enrolled in high school. These students took a total of 4,156 courses.

In addition, many adult education programs work closely with their local high schools to provide "credit recovery" opportunities to high school students at risk of dropping out.

### Maine Adult College Transitions

In 2006-2007, seven Maine Adult Education programs piloted a state-funded program that was expanded for the 2007-2008 school year to 22 programs, building on years of solid performance in readying adults for success in college. These programs are modeling successful regional collaboration between programs and with partners including post-secondary institutions.

**“Adult education programs are natural stepping-stones to higher education.”**

**Greater Expectations,**  
**Maine Compact for**  
**Higher Education,**  
**May 2004**

continued on back...

**“Our workforce isn’t yet ready for tomorrow’s jobs. Compounding the challenge are thousands of older, less-educated workers laid off by downsizing companies. All of that points to an enormous challenge of retraining and re-educating ourselves for the new economy.”**

**Charting Maine’s Future,**  
**The Brookings Institute, 2006**

**“ More workers must demonstrate higher levels of literacy, technology proficiency, and self management to function successfully in the workplace.”**

**Trends and Implications for the**  
**Maine Workforce,**  
**Maine Dept. of Labor, 2005**

## Economic Development

**20,741 enrollments by Maine adults in Workforce Training, Re-Training and Career & Technical Education courses.**

**2,520 enrollments by Maine adults in college transitions courses**

Educational upgrading strengthens people and communities. It gives people the resources and skills they need to cope with change. Skill areas include computer technology, hard trades, allied health, and retail sales.

During the past five years, Maine Adult Education has served many of Maine's dislocated workers from more than 100 companies including small companies from all corners of the state to large mills in Dexter, Millinocket and Biddeford. The workers successfully learned new skills to reenter the job market or proceed to post-secondary training.

## Community Development

**69,404 enrollments in personal enrichment classes**

Lifelong learning is one of the primary goals of our public education system. Such learning strengthens the bonds between community members. The activities are as varied as our learners, ranging from foreign language learning to aerobic exercise, or wreath-making. These courses are housed in our public schools but all instructional and material costs are borne by the learners.

## Human Development

**1,674 individuals received ESOL instruction**

**(English for Speakers of Other Languages)**

**15 Local programs enrolled 235 families in family literacy (2006 Figure)**

Many of our citizens do not possess the necessary skills to function in our literate community. These skills include basic reading comprehension and numeracy skills. Many of these learners are immigrants who desperately need these skills in order to become more functioning members of our communities.

Family Literacy is another program supported by our adult education funds. These programs focus on increasing the skills of both the parents and the child since the strongest indicator of how a child will achieve and succeed in education, is the educational goals and attainment of his or her parents.

## Adult Education Funding

Funding for Adult Education is diverse and adult education is a tremendous value for the investment. The foundation for all these sources is the "local share." Local share is the money local communities raise for adult education. This supports the infrastructure from which to address the local educational needs. The adult education state subsidy is used to pay for academic and vocational instructional costs and program administration. No state funding is used for personal enrichment instruction.

<b>SOURCES</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2006</b>
State Funding	\$ 5,039,322	\$ 5,039,322
Local Share	8,899,623	8,493,280
AEFLA Federal Grant	1,697,451	1,674,375
Carl Perkins Federal Funds*	874,887	867,258
Local Contracts	790,961	978,364
Other Contracts**	933,194	659,103
Enrollment Fees	3,387,789	3,114,001
Other***	1,438,102	1,407,314
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$23,061,262</b>	<b>\$22,233,027</b>

\* This funding source is no longer available to adult education as of July 1, 2007.

\*\* Contracts for educational services with DHHS, DOL, and other state agencies.

\*\*\* Other federal grants (e.g. Even Start Family Literacy), grants from private organizations (Barbara Bush Foundation and Nellie Mae Foundation), other school department and organization funds not detailed elsewhere.

## Adult Education: Maine's Link to a Prosperous Future

- **Flexible Programs**
- **Accessible Locally**
- **Connections to College, The Workplace & The Community**
- **A Great Value**

Prepared by the Maine Adult Education Association,  
www.maineadulted.org, using data provided by the Maine  
Department of Education, www.maine.gov/education/aded/index.htm

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